October 14

Ecclesiasticus 40:1

Difficult By Design?

Great travail
is created
for every man,
and an heavy
yoke is upon
the sons of
Adam, from
the day that
they go out
of their
mother's

womb, till
the day
that they
return to
the mother
of all things.

Difficult By Design?

It could be a bit unsettling to think about life this way. For some, to think about death at all is uncomfortable.

With that in mind, should we just ignore these words?

Should we dismiss the concept of *trouble for everyone* as "negative"?

In fact, it would be pointless to disregard this verse. The reality remains that

travail, as it is used here and meaning labor, work, difficulty, and sorrow, has been designated for humankind *as the result of sin*. Some seem to have travail much less or much more

than others, but apparently some degree of difficulty or hardship is the case for everyone and physical death is certainly a guarantee for all people.

Why would these

words be a part of Scripture (whether they are considered canonical or non-canonical)?

It's not "positive"! It doesn't make anyone feel better. It possibly won't

change anyone's life. So what's the point in stating that hardship and heaviness is set for every human from their first day until their last day on earth?

From this, we may

be able to see that whatever challenge we experience, others have already, do presently, and will in the future, go through similar situations.

We can also

use this as confirmation of other scriptures which remind us of the temporal state of this existence that we call life.

Maybe these are not profound

words, but it is necessary to stay aware that not everything is cushy, sweet, and rosy for anyone. Even the high and mighty, the cruel and powerful, and the popular

and so-called "privileged" (those who have unfair advantages and profit from systematic inequity) will all suffer and die just as will the poor and powerless who

suffer and die.

Facts are just
facts and truth
is truth regardless
to how “positive”
or “negative”
something
sounds.

Apart from to the

theological term (such as *the fallen condition* or *original sin*) or the way one may choose to express it, there is evidence in life of common, inherent difficulties.

Consider pain in gums. The rich and poor, those from all over the world, and those from any time in history, all experience teething discomfort, for example.

One might say
that life is
difficult by
design.
Since the fall
of humankind,
that has not
changed.

ONE A DAY
SCRIPTURE
1611KJV
PRAYER